

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

FISHERIES – District Level Committee constituted for regularizing the existing fresh water aquaculture/permitting for setting up of new aquaculture units in fresh water lands in the State – Comprehensive guidelines – Issued.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRY DEVELOPMENT & FISHERIES (F.II) DEPT.

G.O.Ms.No. 24

Dated:9.4.2010.

Read the following:-

- 1.G.O.Ms.No.83, AHDD&F (F.II) Dept., dt.12.9.2007.
- 2.G.O.Ms.No.18, AHDD&F (F.II) Dept., dt.26.3.2008.
3. G.O.Ms.No.43, AHDD&F (F.II) Dept., dt.31.7.2009.
4. G.O.Ms.No.9, AHDD&F (F.II) Dept., dt.10.2.2010.
- 5.From the Commissioner of Fisheries, Hyderabad, Letter No.13285/P2/2001, dated 16.1.2010.

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ORDER:

In the G.O. 1st read above, orders were issued constituting District Level Committee with District Collector as Chairman of the Committee for regularizing the existing fresh water aquaculture and for setting up of the new fresh water aquaculture units in the State alongwith the guidelines to be followed by the District Level Committee. In the G.O.2nd and G.O.3rd read above, orders were issued affecting some amendments to the orders issued in the G.O.1st read above. In the G.O. 4th read above, the time limit for regularization of the existing fresh water aquaculture farms in the State was extended upto 30.4.2010. In the letter 5th read above, the Commissioner of Fisheries has requested the Government to remove the present (2) months time limit for disposal of the applications filed by the farmers seeking for permission to set up new farms as prior to the issue of licenses to farmers, number of issues have to be sorted out at mandal as well as at division level and many farmers have filed cases in Hon'ble High Court due to non issue of license to the farmer in the prescribed two months time limit.

II. The Government have reviewed the matter keeping in view the policy of Government that the irrigated land should not be permitted to convert as fresh water aqua culture units and decided that committee be constituted at State Level to consider all such fresh / new cases and permit the district level committee to regularize the existing unregistered units and forward eligible cases with recommendations to the State level Committee in respect of new applications. The applications which are not in accordance with the guidelines issued hereunder shall be rejected by the District Level Committee . It is also decided that the existing unregistered units should submit their applications on or before 31.05-2010 and the district committee shall not consider the applications for regularization on or after 01.06.2010.

III. Therefore, the Government in supersession of the orders issued in the G.Os., 1st to 4th read above, hereby issue the following instructions and guidelines to consider the cases for regularization of existing unregistered fresh water aquaculture units and also for starting new units.

IV. The existing unregistered fresh water aqua units which were not regularized earlier should submit their applications on or before 31.05.2010 for its regularization in accordance with the following

(PTO)

instructions. In respect of fresh cases the district committee shall examine as per the guidelines issued in this G.O. and submit recommendations to be placed before the State Level Committee. The District Level Committee shall consist of the following members to consider the applications in accordance with this order.

Sl. No.	Composition of the District Level Committee	Status
1.	District Collector	Chairperson
2.	Executive Engineer, Major Irrigation Department	Member
3.	Deputy Director, Ground Water Department	Member
4.	Joint Director of Agriculture	Member
5.	District Fisheries Officer	Member Convener
6.	Eminent Aqua Farmer	Member
7.	Eminent Agriculture Farmer	Member
8.	Eminent Environmentalist	Member

V. The Government shall nominate members at Sl.No.6, 7 and 8 of the above District Level Committee.

VI. In respect of fresh/ new applications , the Commissioner of Fisheries shall place the material along with the recommendations of District Level Committee before the State Level Committee constituted by the Government for this purpose. The orders constituting State Level Committee will be issued separately.

VII. The following Guidelines shall be followed by the District Level Committee for regularization of the existing unregistered fresh water aquaculture units and to accord permission for setting up of new fresh water aquaculture units in the State:

1. The farmer (applicant) shall have a clear title of land in his name or a lease holder of the land for a minimum period of five years.
2. Fertile agriculture lands shall not be permitted for conversion into fresh water aquaculture ponds except in cases where agriculture lands are less productive, fallow, low lying, prone to water logging.
3. No fresh water aquaculture farm shall be permitted using water drawn from bore wells except for supplementing the evaporation/seepage of water in the pond during culture period.
4. If the aqua farm causes seepage problems to neighbouring agriculture land, to avoid the same, seepage channel shall be constructed and maintained between the aqua farm and the agriculture land by the owner of the aquaculture farm.
5. Environmental friendly and sustainable aquaculture management practices should be adopted.
6. Fish/Prawn species as permitted in the A.P. State Aquaculture Seed (Quality Control) Act, 2006, shall only be permitted for culture.

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7. All the existing unregistered fresh water aquaculture farmers shall register their farms with the District Fisheries Officer concerned within the time limit fixed by the Government.
8. The listed antibiotics and other pharmacologically active substances as banned by GOI and which are published through Gazette Notification from time to time shall not be used in aquaculture practices.
9. If any registered fresh water aquaculture farmer violates the conditions laid down in the Government orders issued from time to time, the District Collector concerned reserves the right to cancel the registration.
10. In respect of the existing unregistered aqua units which have not applied for regularization on or before 31.5.2010, the District Collector should take necessary action to close or demolish such units including penal action against the farmer if his this direction is violated. However, after closure of such units, they can apply for permission as new units in accordance with these guidelines.
11. **Procedure for processing of applications seeking for registrations:**

The District Fisheries Officer of the concerned District shall receive the applications from the unregistered existing/prospective fresh water aquaculture farmers, scrutinize the applications with reference to the guidelines as mentioned above and place them before District Level Committee for its examination and consideration. The District Level Committee after considering all aspects submit the cases to the District Collector along with its recommendations. The District Collector after considering the facts and recommendations of the District Level Committee may issue certificate of registration to all the eligible applicants of unregistered units. The certificate of registration issued shall be valid for three years. After expiry of validity period, the farmer shall apply for renewal of the registration of his/her farm. The renewed registration is valid for 3 years. In case of fresh units, the District level Committee shall forward all the eligible applications along with remarks / recommendations to the Commissioner of Fisheries for placing before the State level Committee constituted by the Government for this purpose.

12. **Processing Fee:**

For regularization of existing/for construction of new fresh water aquaculture ponds, processing fee @ 200/- per acre for one time be collected from the farmer. In case of regularization of existing fish culture pond, the farmer be permitted to file application by paying penalty @ Rs.500/- per acre in addition to the existing rate of Rs.200/- per acre towards processing fee till the extended time limit i.e. 31.5.2010. The amount so collected shall be deposited with the concerned District Fisheries Officer and may be utilized by the District Fisheries Officer for meeting the expenditure related to logistics on processing of applications received from farmers with the prior permission of District Collector.

13. Prohibition of action during the period of registration :-

- a) The farmer should not make any change in layout, design, area and other matter except with prior approval of the registering authority.
- b. Any addition of culture area to the existing registered farm area shall be treated as a new pond construction and the farmer shall apply afresh new for its registration separately.
- c. Any culture area of the registered farm intended to be modified/deleted for some other purpose, the farmer should intimate the same to the registering authority well in advance to carry out the modifications in the certificate of registration issued earlier.

14. Records of inputs used in the farm like seed, feed, chemicals, pro-biotics and medicines and the harvest details such as production and name and address of the person to whom the produce is sold should be maintained and reported to the District Fisheries Officer concerned.

15. The Certificate of Registration is not transferable.

16. The Member Convener may invite the District Forest Officer/District Territorial Officer for the Committee meetings wherever forest lands are involved.

17. The concerned District Collectors may recommend to the Commissioner of Fisheries for initiating disciplinary action against the District Fisheries Officials in case of any complaints received from farmers in processing of applications.

VIII. The District Collectors concerned shall take necessary action accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

DR. PRIYADARSHI DASH
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner of Fisheries, AP., Hyderabad.
All District Collectors in the State.
All Members of the District Level Committees of
All Districts in the State.
Through: The Commissioner of Fisheries, Hyderabad.

Copy to:-
The Agriculture & Cooperation Department.
The Revenue Department.
The Panchayat Raj Department
The I&CAD (IW) Department.
The E.F.S.& T Department.
P.S. to M(AHDD&F)
P.S. to Spl. C.S. to Govt., AHDD&F Dept.
SF/Scs.

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER.